

ABSTRACT

A novel C-type lectin “Mincle” which is formed from a transcriptional target gene of a nuclear factor interleukin 6 (NF-IL6) in a peritoneal macrophage (PMΦ); a gene encoding the same; and medicinal compositions containing the same. A protein which is capable of activating macrophage and induced by a nuclear factor NF-IL6; gene DNA encoding the above protein or polynucleotides consisting of at least 14 bases of the above DNA; medicinal compositions containing the above-described protein and pharmaceutically acceptable carriers; and an antibody against the above protein. This novel protein “Mincle” is useful as a regulator in an immune system, in particular, an immune system under the transcriptional regulation by the nuclear factor NF-IL6.